GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2502
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2001
NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM
JASWANT SINGH YADAV

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched a National Programme on Global Positioning System in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which this system would help in the quake management?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) :Yes Sir. The Department of Science and Technology (DST), had set up an expert group, headed by Surveyor General, Survey of India in July 1997 to evolve a national programme on Global Positioning System (GPS) and geodetic studies for monitoring of the crustal deformation due to earthquake occurrences and other geodynamic processes. The Expert Group recommended that an extensive GPS network consisting of permanent, semi permanent and field stations for local investigations may be established in phases. In the first phase, 21 locations were identified for establishing the permanent stations, out of which, nine stations at Dehradun, Itanagar, Hanle, Almora, Lucknow, Thiruvananthapuram, Bhubaneswar, Pune and Kodaikanal have already been established.DST has also supported a few projects in different organizations for studying the local crustal deformation.

(c): GPS measurements are very valuable for Earthquake studies and help in understanding crustal movements and identifying the areas of higher strain build up/ release. Such measurements are critical to a better understanding of earthquake phenomena leading to greater preparedness and management.